



Senate Transportation Committee – HCR 3019

Emmery Mehlhoff, NDFB Public Policy Liaison

March 18, 2021

Chairman Clemens and members of the committee,

My name is Emmery Mehlhoff and I represent the North Dakota Farm Bureau. I am testifying in support of HCR 3019.

NDFB applauds Representative Headland and the other sponsors for authoring HCR 3019 to consider the impacts of Fish and Wildlife Easements on ND infrastructure. NDFB has had long-standing policy concerned with the effects of perpetual easements.

US Fish and Wildlife notoriously places its interests above the safety and financial interests of North Dakota. Regulations imposed by US Fish and Wildlife unduly burdens ND political subdivisions and delays improvements to projects during important construction times of the year.

In recent years, wet conditions across ND have increased the size of many of the wetlands under US Fish and Wildlife control. Poor management of these lands has cost counties and townships thousands of dollars in road maintenance. We hope the Federal Government will also take up this very important study.

NDFB urges the committee to give HCR 3019 a Do Pass recommendation.

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